

News Release



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Special Photo Exhibit at Railroad Museum Celebrates New Book, Five Decades of Images by Legendary Railroad Photographer David Plowden

***“Requiem for Steam” Exhibit Goes on Display Beginning October 1;
Plowden to Speak, Sign Books on November 6***

SACRAMENTO, Calif. -- Timed in conjunction with the release of celebrated photographer David Plowden's new book *Requiem for Steam*, an exhibition of his powerful images will debut on Friday, October 1, at the California State Railroad Museum in Old Sacramento. Developed by the Center for Railroad Photography & Art, the traveling “Requiem for Steam: The Railroad Photographs of David Plowden” exhibit will feature more than 25 of the book's stunning black-and-white prints. Images will include towering views of steam locomotives in action, portraits of the men who operated them and studies of small-town depots, framed by an industrialized America that no longer exists.

Soon after the photo exhibit opens at the Railroad Museum, publisher W.W. Norton & Company will release Plowden's new book *Requiem for Steam* on Saturday, October 9—the photographer's 78th birthday. It will be his fourth book, focusing entirely on railroad photography and showcasing 134 photographs, many previously unpublished. Plowden has written all the text and extensive captions which detail his experiences as a railroad photographer through decades of change.

Then, as a special treat, Railroad Museum visitors will have the rare opportunity to meet the celebrated photographer on Saturday, November 6, at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. when Plowden is scheduled to deliver fascinating lectures about his five decades of railroad photography. Plowden is renowned for speaking with a “twinkle” not only in his eyes but in his voice, inviting listeners to enjoy life and photography as much as he does.

“Requiem for Steam: The Railroad Photographs of David Plowden” exhibit will be on display at the Museum through January 6, 2011. After debuting at the California State Railroad Museum, the exhibition will travel nationwide in 2011. For more information about the exhibit, lecture or related activities happening at the California State Railroad Museum, visit www.californiastaterailroadmuseum.org; for more information about the photographer or traveling exhibit in general, visit www.railphoto-art.org.

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Operated by California State Parks with financial assistance from the non-profit California State Railroad Museum Foundation, the California State Railroad Museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. except Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. Widely regarded as North America's finest and most popular railroad museum, the complex of facilities includes the 100,000-square foot Railroad History Museum plus the reconstructed Central Pacific Railroad Passenger Station and Freight Depot, 1849 Eagle Theatre, and Big Four and Dingley Spice Mill commercial buildings in Old Sacramento. For 24-hour information, visit www.californiastaterailroadmuseum.org or call (916) 445-6645.

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